

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1246

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, US, NATO
SUBJECT: CEP: MEETING OF HIGH-LEVEL WORKING GROUP ON EMPLOYMENT
AND STAUS OF NATO CIVILIAN PERSONNEL IN TIME OF CRISIS AND
WAR MARCH 4, 1977

REF: (A) USNATO 1083 (DTG 010900Z MAR 77 (B) STATE 48209, (DTG
040244Z MAR 77)

SUMMARY: MARCH 4 MEETING OF WG ON EMPLOYMENT AND STATUS
OF NATO CIVILIAN PERSONNEL IN TIME OF CRISIS AND WAR
AGREED ON COMPROMISE THAT ENTAILS REVISING PARA 14(3),
AND PERHAPS PARA 13, OF AC/285-WP/20. NEW TEXT WILL
STATE THAT GREEMENT ON UNIFORM WARTIME STATUS FOR NATO
CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES SEEMS UNLIKELY AT PRESENT TIME, BUT
WILL NOTE ON CANADIAN SUGGESTION FOR ACHIEVING UNIFORMITY.
APPROVAL OF REVISIONS WILL BE SOUGHT BY SILENT CONSENT.
IF APPROVED, REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED TO COUNCIL. END
SUMMARY.

1. CANADIAN REP (CAMERON) RESTATED CANADIAN POSITION
EXPRESSED IN AC/285-WP/21 AND URGED WORKING GROUP
TO DEVELOP A UNIFORM POLICY ON WARTIME STATUS FOR NATO
CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES. HE WITHDREW, HOWEVER, SUGGESTION
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THAT ISSUE BE REFERRED TO DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON
HUMANITARIAN LAW SINCE CONFERENCE'S DISCUSSIONS WERE
SO FAR ADVANCED.

2. FRG REP (ASSBERG) DOUBTED THAT UNIFORM POLICY WAS
POSSIBLE AND URGED THAT AC/285-WP/20 BE FORWARDED TO
COUNCIL IN PRESENT FORM. THE UK REP (CLEGHORN) POINTED
OUT THAT HIS AUTHORITIES DID NOT ACCEPT CANADIAN POSITION
IN AC/285-WP/21 BUT TOOK VIEW THAT THE FOURTH GENEVA
CONVENTION SHOULD COVER BOTH NATO CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

WORKING IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY AND CIVILIAN STAFF WHO ARE NOT NATIONALS OF THE COUNTRY WHERE THEY WORK IF THEIR DEPENDENTS ARE PRESENT. HOWEVER, CIVILIAN STAFF WHO ARE NOT NATIONALS OF THE COUNTRY WHERE THEY WORK AND SHO DO NOT HAVE DEPENDENTS WITH THEM SHOULD BE COVERED BY THE THIRD GENEVA CONVENTION.

2. CHAIRMAN PANSA, ANXIOUS TO FORWARD LONG-DELAYED REPORT TO COUNCIL, SUGGESTED FOLLOWING COMPRIME. LANAGUAGE WOULD BE INSERTED IN PARA 14(3) OF AC/285-WP/20 TO INDICATE THAT NO UNIFORM SOLUTION SEEMED POSSIBLE AT PRESENT TIME, AND AT END OF SAME PARA ANOTHER CLAUSE WOULD BE ADDED CITING CANADIAN PROPOSAL IN PARA 5 OF AC/285-WP/21 AS ONE POSSIBLE WAY TO ACHIEVE UNIFORMITY.

4. PANSA ALSO REQUESTED HIS STAFF TO REVIEW SENTENCE TWO OF PARA 13 OF AC/285-WP/20 TO DETERMINE ACCURANCY OF SUGGESTION THAT THIRD GENEVA CONVENTION COVERS DEPENDENTS OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL.

5. CANADIAN REP AGREED RELUCTANTLY TO COMPROMISE, AND UK REP REITERATED HIS AUTHORITIES DIFFICULTIES WITH CANADIAN APPROACH IN PARA 5 OF AC/285-WP/21. ALL DELEGATIONS, HOWEVER, AGREED TO FORWARD REVISIONS TO CAPITALS FOR REVIEW.

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6. PANSA HOPES TO ISSUE REVISIONS LATER THIS WEEK AND WILL REQUEST APPROVAL BY SILENT CONSENT. IF APPROVED, THE REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE COUNCIL. PANSA INTENDS TO ADD COVERING NOTE RECOMMENDING THAT UPON COUNCIL ACCEPTANCE OF REPORT WORKING GROUP BE DISBANDED. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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